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AN INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM

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TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
 Examiner: M. Battaglia  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 PO Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller  
 OUR REF: 10873.1822USWO  
 TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 8

PTO FAX NUMBER: 571.273.8300

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Title of Document: **Preliminary Amendment (7 pages)**

Applicant: AI  
 Serial No.: 10/559908  
 App. Filed: December 8, 2005  
 Group Art No.: 2627  
 Confirmation No.: 8290

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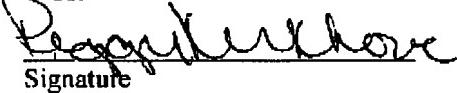
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S/N 10/559908

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:

AI

Examiner:

M. Battaglia

Serial No.:

10/559908

Group Art Unit:

2627

Filed:

December 8, 2005

Docket No.:

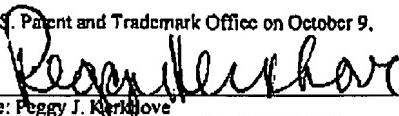
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

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